# *Executive Proclamation*
## *State of South Dakota*
## *Office of the Governor*

***Whereas***, February 10-16, 2008, has been designated by the national SkillsUSA Association as Skills USA Week; and,

***Whereas***, Profound economic and technological changes in our society are rapidly reflected in the structure and nature of work, thereby placing new and additional responsibilities on our educational system; and,

***Whereas***, Career and technical education provides South Dakota students with a school-to-careers connection and is the backbone of a strong, well-educated workforce that fosters productivity in business and industry; and,

***Whereas***, Career and technical education gives South Dakota students experience in practical, meaningful applications of their skills, thus improving the quality of their education, motivating at-risk students and giving all students leadership opportunities in their fields; and,

***Whereas***, Career and technical education offers individuals lifelong opportunities to learn new skills that provide them with expanded career choices; and,

***Whereas***, The ever-increasing cooperative efforts of career and technical educators, business and industry stimulate the growth and vitality of our state's economy; and,

***Whereas***, SkillsUSA, a national organization for students preparing for technical, skilled, and service occupations, helps its members become world-class workers and responsible Americans; and,

***Whereas***, SkillsUSA has more than 400 members at the high school and postsecondary levels in South Dakota:

***Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds***, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 10-16, 2008, as

*SkillsUSA Week*

in South Dakota.

***In Witness Whereof***, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-second Day of January in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eight.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

**Attest:**

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State